

What is claimed:

- 1           1.       A process for preserving fresh produce comprising the step of coating the  
2           exterior surface of the produce with a coating composition comprising an  
3           aqueous emulsion of from about 0.25 to 25% by weight of polyvinylidene  
4           chloride copolymer, and from about 0.0005 to 10% by weight surfactant.
- 1           2.       A process as set forth in claim 1, wherein the polyvinylidene chloride  
2           copolymer consists of polyvinylidene chloride-co-, acrylic acid, styrene, vinyl  
3           chloride, or combinations of the aforementioned co-monomers.
- 1           3.       A process set forth in claim 1 wherein the surfactant is Triton-X45,  
2           Tergitol, and polysorbate or dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate.
- 1           4.       A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein the coating composition includes  
2           from about 0.05 to about 0.1% by weight antimicrobials.
- 1           5.       A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein the coating composition includes  
2           from about 50 to 1000 parts per billion fungicides.
- 1           6.       A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein the coating composition includes  
2           about 0.005 to 0.1% polydimethylsiloxane.
- 1           7.       A coating composition for the preservation of fresh produce comprising  
2           an aqueous emulsion of from about 0.25 to 25% by weight of polyvinylidene  
3           copolymer, and about 0.0005 to 10% surfactant.
- 1           8.       A coating composition as set forth in claim 7 wherein the surfactant  
2           comprises Triton-X45, or Tergitol, or Tween, or dioctyl sodium succinate.
- 1           9.       A coating composition as set forth in claim 7 including from about 0.05 to  
2           5% by weight antimicrobials.
- 1           10.      A coating composition as set forth in claim 7 including from about 25 to  
2           1000 parts per billion fungicides.

- 1        11.     A coating composition as set forth in claim 7 including from about 0.005  
2        to 0.1% antifoaming agent polydimethylsiloxane.